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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

JUDGING THE JUDGES, WITH SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE 1928 IRIS SEASON AT IRISCREST

Franklin B. Mead

Mrs. Peckham's article in the October, 1928, Bulletin was extremely interesting and her remarks regarding the judging of irises seem to me to be based upon sound principles. These, and the reference to judging irises by the "spyglass" method, suggest a consideration of the rationale of *judging* irises in the garden.

New irises are introduced at Iriscrest for the purpose of gaining acquisitions for the garden picture, there and for other gardens. To determine the use and worthiness of an iris for this purpose, color effect is the very first consideration, from which it appears that color in the iris is the element of primary importance; at least it is so here. The next consideration is, does it furnish that color gracefully and in a pleasing manner? In order to do this, the leading subsidiary quality is substance; *i.e.*, it must be firm and resistant to weather conditions. For example, owing to failure in this quality Lord of June has been discarded at Iriscrest, notwithstanding its beautiful color. Furthermore, it must have substance in order to display and maintain its form, which is one of the most pleasing and distinctive qualities in an iris. Then comes poise, which includes pleasing proportions and setting on the stalk, and then other qualities of size, height, floriferousness and satisfactory strength of growth; but after all, color is the primary requisite.

It seems to be basically wrong to state as of primary importance, as I have seen it done by some breeders and judges, that reticulations mar an iris. Reticulations may, indeed, mar an iris and again they may enhance its beauty. Glowing Embers, which secured an Award of Merit in 1928 as one of the best three irises produced in America in 1923, is one of the best illustrations I know of. The reticulations seem to me to greatly enhance the beauty of the flower, as shown by the accompanying illustration, whereas I heard

one breeder, seconded by another, say that it should never have been named, presumably on account of its reticulations; for I have heard this same breeder condemn another beautiful iris, referred to later, on account of reticulations which unquestionably, to my mind at least, greatly enhance its beauty. I believe few will deny that the

Glowing Embers (Sturt. 1923) A. M., A. I. S. at Iriscrest.

variety of form and of poise in the three stalks of Glowing Embers shown in the accompanying illustration, as well as the reticulations, increases the beauty of the clump, although I fear that there may be some judges who would condemn offhand the irregularity to which that variety of form and of poise is due. This group, by the way, was one of the most beautiful that has ever appeared at Iris-

crest, where nine hundred of the world's best irises have been grown.

With Tropic Seas and Canopus, Glowing Embers was especially selected for a planting to give what might be called a woodland effect before a gray chestnut sapling fence against the trees beyond. The planting seemed highly successful but the two judges or breeders in question both declared that these three irises should never have been named. This suggests the thought that in judging irises their suitability for certain purposes should be considered. It was a rugged effect which was wanted and apparently secured. Surely an iris gardener might be expected occasionally to have some poetry in his soul.

One of the most beautiful, brilliant and distinctive irises for coloring that ever appeared at Iriscrest was Millet's new Messaline, which bloomed there for the first time this past season. The standards are crystalline gold, lightening toward the margins and flushed with pink lights. The falls are Corinthian red, passing to gold at the throat with heavy reticulations of gold which greatly add to the brilliancy and pleasing color contrast of the flower. The breeder in question, without pausing to regard its beauty from a distance of ten, twenty or thirty feet or more, rushed up to it, ran his hands around the flower as if he were judging the firmness and quality of the flesh of a steer, and condemned it on account of the reticulations, which certainly would, in the opinion of most of us in judging this particular iris for its beauty in the garden, be regarded as adding to that beauty.

Ruskin sets forth two principles in judging the merits of buildings: first, do they do their practical duty well; second, are they pleasing and graceful in doing it? The primary duty of an iris *in the garden* is to furnish color, which is, by the way, reminiscent of Ruskin's reference, that color is the most "sacred element of all things." First, then, does an iris do well its duty of furnishing color and, second, is it graceful and pleasing in doing so?

Among the most useful pigments for the iris picture are the pinks, rose and rosy purple shades, which are, for the most part, warm and glowing. Among the older standbys, the best of these are the crystalline Dream, Wild Rose, Delicatissima, Susan Bliss and Aphrodite. Among the newcomers is Cayeux's Solferino, similar in tone to Aphrodite but larger and taller. This was highly rated by Messrs. Pilkington and Murrell when they visited France

in 1926. Somewhat lighter in shade than Solferino, and the giant of them all in size and height, is Perry's Mrs. Marian Cran, a well-formed flower of great substance. This iris resulted from the cross of Mrs. S. Ryder with Queen of May. The beautiful Marquisette of Cayeux, shrimp pink, is not only a new color but a most beautiful one for the garden picture and rivals Peau Rouge in carrying quality.

Possibly the most beautiful of this whole range is Cayeux's Fascination, which is of the same depth of tone as Aphrodite without the blue of that variety; in other words, it is a glowing, brilliant rose of wonderful carrying quality, a flower of good size, fine form and on a tall, branching stalk. There is only one approach to it in intensity and beauty of color, and that is an old favorite at Iriscrest, sent by Sydney Mitchell under the name of Diablo. Diablo has the same color in the standards as Fascination, a pigment for which I had long been searching, but the falls are somewhat deeper in tone. Mr. Mitchell has always threatened to take the name from the unintroduced Diablo and give it to another (just why I have never known), but, fortunately, he has, at least up to now, been deterred by counterthreats.

Passing to the somewhat deeper shades, Cayeux is developing some very fine and interesting varieties which are very useful in the garden. In particular, Labor is a rich red-purple like a deeper and finer Rosalba. It is suffused with vinaceous purple and has an electric blue sheen. Bourem is a deeper and more claret Labor and Pavane is a more yellow and a rosier Bourem. Peau Rouge, with splendid carrying qualities, is a very fine color in this group.

Before leaving this range one should not fail to mention Mr. Bliss's Evadne, which is probably his best all-round garden iris, just as Mrs. Valerie West is his best show iris. Further trial may prove it to be as fine as a garden iris. Evadne is intermediate in tone between Mt. Penn and Seminole with the brilliancy of the latter and the subtle coloring of the former, a tall, free blooming iris of excellent general characteristics. Evadne is the result of a cross between two seedlings, one resulting from Assuerus by Leonidas and the other resulting from Queen of May by Cordelia. I mention this as good irises of this particular tone are rare.

Among the light lavender blues Mary Barnett is outstanding, paler and more of the lavender than Pallida Dalmatica, which is slightly deeper and bluer. There is more of the yellow in Mary

Barnett and the beard is of a much more conspicuous yellow, adding greatly to its charm. Slightly deeper and less yellow is the large, majestic and beautifully formed Souv. de Loetitia Michaud. A little more blue but of about the same depth is the charming Jacqueline Guillot, which is more on the lavender order than Pallida Dalmatica and more opaque. Jacqueline Guillot is a remarkably fine, free-blooming garden iris. It may be added that there is none of the yellow of Pallida Dalmatica in Jacqueline Guillot, either in the petalage or in the beard which is white. If Mr. Williamson's beautiful apricot blend Vesper Gold is planted with this lavender-blue range there will be no question raised as to its dullness.

Three fine lavender blues from England deserve a place; Aquamarine, about the same as Bluet in color; Mr. Murrell's harebell blue Ariel, a fine tall plant somewhat deeper than Bluet; deeper still and outstanding is Wedgewood, soft bluish-violet, the same depth as Benbow but a purer blue.

Among the yellows, Primrose still maintains its place as Miss Sturtevant's best yellow, a lovely color and the tallest of all, fully forty inches at Iriscrest. Gold Imperial is still the best of the corn-colored shades, whereas Amber is possibly the best all-round yellow yet in commerce, a somewhat deeper, larger and richer Shekinah. In view of the fact that the last winter or two has demonstrated that the much-famed yellow, W. R. Dykes, is tender in cold climates, the foregoing will rank as the best yellows in commerce until the merits of Mr. Jackson's Golden Glory and several other American seedlings have been thoroughly tested, and especially until Cayeux's new Pluie d'Or, so greatly admired by Mr. Murrell in France this year as the finest of all yellows, has bloomed in our gardens. Among the pale yellows, Mr. Hall's Aliquippa, which received an Award this past year from the Iris Society, is probably the best.

At Iriscrest this past season Grace Sturtevant and Mrs. Valerie West appeared as an advance on the previous Dominion seedlings of Bliss. Mrs. Valerie West is a large flower of the finest dome-shaped form, fully double the size of Ambassadeur, of great substance and with standards which are somewhat richer. It may be more appropriately called a greatly glorified Ambigue as the falls are about the same color but more velvety. The standards are not so reddish as those of Ambigue but bronzier. Grace Sturtevant is

much more brown than any of these and possibly than any other iris, and the color is extremely rich and velvety. Mrs. Valerie West might be described as a more claret Grace Sturtevant. In this range Le Correge of Vilmorin, regarded by Messrs. Pilkington and Murrell as about the finest iris they saw in France in 1926, made its first appearance at Iriscrest this past season. The falls of Le Correge are rich and velvety, somewhat lighter and somewhat browner than those of Ambassadeur, while the standards are light bronze suffused violet, with gold at the throat; the standards are somewhat similar to those of Messaline. Le Correge is a fine upstanding iris of quality in other respects as well.

Robert W. Wallace is one of the best of Perry's, a greatly improved Archeveque—richer, taller, deeper and larger. What more need be said? It was only this year that this iris appeared in its best form here.

I found the most-talked-of iris in England last year, and considered there the most outstanding thing appearing in recent seasons, was Sir Michael. The falls are rounded, in color like those of a richer Germaine Perthuis; this rounded effect is increased by the color becoming more brilliant in intensity toward the center. One of the beautiful characteristics of this iris is the contrast of the standards and falls, as the standards are a fine lavender-blue and the large yellow beard is wonderfully conspicuous.

Of indescribable charm is Murrell's Allure, resulting from the cross of Imperator with Shekinah, a sister seedling of the newer Romance. Allure has standards of iridescent shell pink flushed yellow at the base, while the falls are opalescent pink and lavender-blue flushed pure yellow gold at the base, alluring colors of the dawn, even richer perhaps than the lovely Candlelight which, however, has not yet bloomed in good form at Iriscrest as the plants were not well established.

The French are developing many irises of beautiful and novel coloring. Cayeux's Ophelia is old gold flushed heliotrope with falls of gold deepening to the center which is washed heliotrope with a pale metallic blue flush, a wonderful harmony of colors which is especially lovely when planted with irises like Mary Barnett and Jacqueline Guillot. Vilmorin's Fra Angelico is charming light bronzy gold with falls overlaid metallic light lavender-blue. A very dainty iris of delicate and beautiful coloring is Rosa Bonheur, deep metallic yellow standards with falls the same overlaid lavender-

violet, a flower of great refinement and fine form. Unlike anything else in cultivation is the well named La Bohemienne of Millet, deep helebore red, bronzed, and with a heavy orange beard.

Perry, within a year or two, gave us so many that it is hard to discriminate. Lord Lambourne deserves a place as the best of a number of about the same type which Perry has introduced. Mary Gibson is distinct and beautiful, in effect a lovely warm tan, to be planted with the pallidas. Mrs. H. F. Bowles is distinct in color and of good garden effect, the nearest approach to King Midas. Palemon is a fine, big, tall iris which might be described as a more pink Mady Carriere.

The plicata race of Sass are fine and unlike anything else in cultivation. The best that are generally known at the present time are Jubilee and King Karl, which are fine garden plants. These are being followed by many new plicatas, in color most unusual and delicate. I was particularly impressed with the unnamed Sass seedling No. 17½ which was glorious in the mass this past summer, in color very similar to Mr. Dykes's Peerless which is a poor doer in this climate.

Mr. Williamson has a number of new irises of Lent A. Williamson quality in new colors already introduced or still to be introduced. My favorite of all is Avatar, striking buff standards with metallic blue falls. Cinnabar is a fine thing, Archeveque type, or as might perhaps better now be said, R. W. Wallace in type. Sonata, an enticing thing in buff rather of Mme. Durrande color and Lent A. habit, will form an ideal combination with Avalon and Rhea.

Visits of musicians and artists to the garden are always a matter of interest, particularly if they are not well acquainted with irises, for it is refreshing to get their reactions and suggestions. Paul Manship, regarded by many authorities as the outstanding sculptor of the age, was a visitor this past summer. He was first impressed with the amazing opulence of color. After that he seemed most impressed with beauty of line which is secured; for example, he was probably most attracted by this before a large planting of Mary Williamson, in a conspicuous corner along the pathway. The effect of line and action in this fine amoena results from the color markings of the falls and the great variety of the carriage of the flower itself, this last a poor quality in other irises but effective in this! Some of our breeders doubtless would reject this iris on this account.

Another iris of the few he singled out was the debated Col. Lindbergh of the late Mrs. Arbuckle. The sinuosity of the waved margins of the standards and falls was appealing to the sculptor. This iris is tall and graceful with a slender spike. The flower is of good size and substance and it is unsurpassed in its color. Mrs. Arbuckle sent it to me as an improved B. Y. Morrison. It is certainly the superior flower but I would regard it of the Perfection type, a variety long since discarded here, although its color is very beautiful when it comes unblotched. Azure and Rheintraube have been discarded for Col. Lindbergh, which is of even finer garden effect than the almost similar toned Swazi.

In bringing these irises together for comparison the thought occurred that Swazi must be a cross between Azure and Dominion.

It was a matter of regret that King Midas was not in bloom at the time of Mrs. Peckham's visit, but this is a very early variety and its season was over. It was also a matter of regret that she saw only the first bloom of Ion. The weather was cool and there had been repeated dashing rains before and during her visit and the one bloom of Ion that she saw had stood up, massive and unassailed, through forty-eight hours of this. Its substance was not affected but doubtless its color and delicacy were somewhat marred.

After dinner Mr. Manship was shown Mr. Dykes's great work on The Genus Iris. He was most impressed with the fine color illustration of Bucharica, particularly its formation. As a result he immediately took out a note-book and made a sketch of it, doubtless for use in grillwork or something of that sort, in which he is as adept as he is with the human figure. Bucharica, by the way, is always a most attractive flower in the early spring at Irisecrest, infinitely superior to Orchioides, which has been discarded as more or less nondescript in comparison with its more beautiful relative.

SCIENCE SERIES NO. 4

REPORT ON THE BREEDING WORK WITH IRISES AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

CLYDE CHANDLER AND A. B. STOUT

I. The Seedlings of the Breeding of 1926

A total of 752 seedlings grown from seed obtained by Dr. Clarence E. Moore* in 1926 bloomed during the summer of 1928. These were observed and with the special assistance of Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham, 97 of the best were chosen to be kept for possible use in further breeding or for propagation if this be desired. The others were either discarded or placed in border display planting in The New York Botanical Garden.

Of the plants kept, eight were from seeds of a cross between *I. Baxteri* and Red Emperor and these were all typical *I. orientalis.* In about half of these the flowers were similar in color and form to Red Emperor. For the others the colors of the flowers were of shades of blue.

Ninety plants from seed obtained from Red Emperor x *I. Pseudacorus* flowered and these gave many plants of the types of Red Emperor and of Caesar. There was one plant like *I. sibirica,* and one that was a pure white *I. orientalis.* Fifteen of these plants were kept as the best of these hybrids.

The cross, Perry's Blue x Snow Queen gave 305 plants, most of which were of the *I. orientalis* type but a small percent were of the *I. sibirica* type. Some were fine whites with the habit and appearance of Snow Queen. About 80% of these plants produced white or light-colored flowers. Some of the blues were very dark but the majority of blues were medium dark, while some were very clear and light in shade.

Eleven plants were selected from the cross Mme. Butterfly x *I. sibirica alba.* Most of these were of the *I. sibirica* type. But a few were *I. orientalis* type with a color variation from pure white with yellow at the base of the falls to light blue with white and

* Clarence E. Moore and A. B. Stout, Sterility in Apogon and Pogoniris. Bull. Amer. Iris Soc. 21: 2–20. October, 1926.

brown streaks on falls or to clear blue, pink, or violet. There were 125 plants in this lot.

Approximately one eighth of the plants with Red Emperor in the parentage resembled this variety. The results of this breeding may be summarized as follows:

Parents	No of Plants	No. Kept	Type
I. Baxteri x Red Emperor	23	8	Good *I. orientalis;* short light Emperor; good medium blues.
I. Pseudacorus Mercedes selfed	5	1	Typical Mercedes (very light); small *Pseudacorus.*
Mme. Butterfly x *I. sibirica alba*	125	11	Mostly sibirica; few orientalis; white with yellow at base of falls; light blue with white and brown streaks on falls. Clear blue to violet pink tendency.
Perry's Blue x Snow Queen	305	23	Mostly *I. orientalis* small % *I. sibirica.* Some fine whites with good Snow Queen habit. Some dark blue, mostly medium, some very clear and light.
Red Emperor x *I. Pseudacorus*	90	15	1 pure white *I. orientalis* type; 6 Red Emperor type; 3 Caesar type; few *I. sibiricus* type.
Red Emperor x ?	43	10	6 show definite Red Emperor; 2 have red tendency; 2 typical sibiricas; others *I. orientalis* type.
Parentage uncertain	50	3	Many typical Emperors. Some with *I. orientalis* type; 3 with dark violet flowers.

II. Iris Seedlings of the 1927 Breeding

A brief report may now be made of the seedlings that are being grown from the seed obtained in the 1927 breeding work which

was conducted under the auspices of The American Iris Society and of which a detailed report* has already been published.

There were 114 different lots of seed obtained in this breeding. During February, 1927, these were planted in seed pans filled with a mixture of soil and sand and the pans were kept in a greenhouse. Ninety-two lots of these seed have given seedlings. In most cases

FIG. 1. Above figure shows about half of the Iris seedlings which are the result of the 1927 breeding work. The following series are outstanding in the figure: 117, *versicolor* × *virginica purpurescens;* 118, *versicolor* × Snow Queen; 119, *versicolor* × *Baxteri;* 127, *versicolor* × *virginica* 54122; 122, Emperor × *orientalis;* 106, True Blue × *orientalis;* 139, *Setosa Hookeri,* which are not hybrid seedlings but are seedlings from seed obtained from Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh; 129, *versicolor* × *virginica purpurescens;* 77, *virginica* × 54814; 78, *Baxteri* × *versicolor;* 110, True Blue × Snow Queen.

These were grown in the greenhouse until planting in the spring of 1928. The photograph was taken in October when the plants were less than one year old.

there was a prompt germination followed by a rather vigorous growth. In the spring those seedlings derived from parents hardy in northern United States were planted out of doors in nursery beds. Seedlings having as a parent *I. fulva* or other plants from southern United States were placed in pots and kept in a greenhouse or cold frame during the summer so that protection could

* Clyde Chandler and A. B. Stout. Report of 1927 Iris Breeding Experiments at The New York Botanical Garden. Bull. Amer. Iris Soc. 27: 31–49. April, 1928.

be given them during the following winter. The total number of seedlings growing at the end of the summer was 2289.

In this report the number of seedlings obtained is given together with the parentage for each lot of seed. In the records each lot of seed bears a series number as designated. The numbers used in the report for parentage are the accession numbers given to the plants growing in The New York Botanical Garden. These numbers are used until the plants are identified but after this is done some of the numbers are retained in order that the native locality of the plant may be more easily determined.

Seedlings Growing in Field

No. of Series	No. of Seedlings	
40	27	*versicolor* x 56646
41	14	" 52414 x 56646
42	7	" 52045 x *laevigata albopurpurea*
50	11	Dorothea K. Williamson x *foliosa*
58	3	*carolina* 52384 x *laevigata*
59	6	*prismatica* x *spurdaine*
62	36	*versicolor* 52364 x *carolina*
64	5	*versicolor* x *carolina*
65	6	52384 x *carolina*
66	3	52018 x *laevigata albopurpurea*
67	20	Dancing Nymph x *chrysographes*
68	21	Hodai 49599 x *chrysographes*
69	2	*Pseudacorus* x *brachycarpa*
70	31	*spuria* 48930 x *Baxteri*
72	3	*Pseudacorus* x *virginica* 53039
73	60	*virginica* 53039 x Tol-long
74	70	*virginica* x *versicolor*
75	16	*tricuspis* 53554 x *Hookeri*
76	89	*virginica* 53039 x 56733
77	38	*virginica* x 54814
78	102	*Baxteri* x *versicolor*
82	9	*spuria* 48930 x *brachycarpa*
83	170	*spuria* 48930 x True Blue
84	3	*spuria* 48930 x *Pseudacorus*
85	94	*spuria* x Snow Queen
86	40	*spuria* x *orientalis*
87	24	54814 x *virginica purpurescens*
88	23	*virginica purpurescens* x 54814
89	6	49878 (custa) x *versicolor*
90	39	*sibirica* x Snow Queen
91	18	*sibirica* x *virginica* 54122
92	27	*sibirica* x *Pseudacorus*

No. of Series	No. of Seedlings	
93	10	*sibirica alba* x *laevigata*
95	8	" " x *versicolor*
96	2	" " x 54814
100	51	Mme. Butterfly x Emperor
101	6	*versicolor* 53037 x *virginica* 54122
102	18	Sunny Brook x Snow Queen
104	39	Sunny Brook x *orientalis*
106	47	True Blue x *orientalis*
108	68	True Blue x Emperor
109	14	True Blue x *brachycarpa*
110	18	True Blue x Snow Queen
113	174	No. 25 x *orientalis*
115	32	*Hookeri* x *tricuspis*
117	20	*versicolor* 56736 x *virginica purpurescens*
118	6	*versicolor* 56736 x Snow Queen
119	17	*versicolor* x *Baxteri*
120	42	*Baxteri* 56119 x *orientalis*
121	54	*Baxteri* x Emperor
122	138	Emperor x *orientalis*
125	124	Emperor x Snow Queen
127	41	*versicolor* x *virginica* 54122
128	16	*versicolor* x *virginica* 53039
129	77	*versicolor* x *virginica purpurescens*
130	9	*versicolor* x 56566
133	4	*virginica purpurescens* x *laevigata*
134	1	53885 x *laevigata*
137	58	*Pseudacorus bastardi* x *virginica*

The seedlings listed above have as parents plants which are hardy in the northern United States. They have been planted in the field in nursery beds and have made good growth. However, it is impossible to say that one series has grown better than another series since one may have had larger types of plants as parents. The average height of some of the seedlings follows: Dancing Nymph x *I. chrysographes* averages a height of 3 ft. 2 in.; *I. versicolor* x *I. carolina* 2 ft. 10 in.; *I. Pseudacorus* x *I. virginica* 2 ft. 6 in.; *I. Baxteri* x *I. versicolor* 2 ft. 4 in.; Hodai x *I. chrysographes* 2 ft. 2 in.; and True Blue x Snow Queen 1 ft. 6 in.; *I. spuria* x *I. orientalis, I. sibirica alba* x *I. laevigata,* and *I. Baxteri* x *I. orientalis* have all obtained the height of about 1 ft. 4 in. The seedlings the result of the cross *I. prismatica* x *I. spurdaine* are 1′ 2″ tall. *I. tricuspis* x *I. Hookeri* gave seedlings 7 in. tall while the reciprocal grew 8½ in. tall.

Seedlings Making Excellent Growth. Kept in the Greenhouse

No. of Series	No. of Seedlings	
26	10	*Spuria* Mrs. Tait x *fulva*
28	5	*versicolor* x *fulva*
29	6	*virginica* x *fulva*
30	2	56727 x *fulva*
32	2	*fulva* x 56642
35	13	*Pseudacorus bastardi* x *fulva*
36	1	56622 x Dorothea K. Williamson
37	10	56642 x *fulva*
43	2	*versicolor* x 56642
44	11	56646 x 56642
45	5	*versicolor* 52368 x *Pseudacorus*
55	3	*versicolor* x Emperor
97	1	*sibirica alba* x 54122
138	3	*Pseudacorus bastardi* x *versicolor*

FIG. 2. Considerable variation in size of the different series of seedlings may be seen in this figure. All the plants in the first row left are dwarf including the following series: 87, No. 54814 × *virginica purpurescens;* 90, *sibirica* × Snow Queen; 133, *virginica purpurescens* × *laevigata;* and No. 53885 × *laevigata.* At the right: Series 84, *spuria* × *Pseudacorus;* 88, *virginica purpurescens* × 54814; 89, *custa* × *versicolor;* 121, *Baxteri* × Emperor; 74, *virginica* × *versicolor;* and 67, Dancing Nymph × chrysographs.

Plants Making Good Growth. Kept in Greenhouse

Some seedlings have made an excellent growth but have been kept in the greenhouse because their parents are southern forms of Irises or because the cross is an exceptional one. Series number 43, 44, 37, 35, 30, 29, 26, 55, and 36 have made best growth and are all about the same height of 2 ft. 4 in.

No. of Series	No. of Seedlings	
27	17	*versicolor* 53843 x *laevigata*
34	6	*virginica* x *laevigata*
38	4	Dorothea K. Williamson x 56646
39	15	" " " x *fulva*
46	3	*fulva* x 56646
49	9	Blue King x *fulva*
50	11	Dorothea K. Williamson x *foliosa*
54	14	*foliosa* x *fulva*
56	3	*versicolor* 52414 x *carolina*
57	1	52414 x *Pseudacorus*
61	4	*prismatica* x *foliosa*
81	2	*spuria* 48930 x *fulva*
94	6	*sibirica alba* x *Hookeri*
99	1	Mme. Butterfly x *versicolor*
116	3	54814 x *carolina*
132	3	*virginica purpurescens* x *versicolor*

The above seedlings have made a good growth but are not as large as those of the series previously mentioned. These range from 5 inches to 18 inches in height. All have good color and all appear to be vigorous.

Small Seedlings in Greenhouse

No. of Series	No. of Seedlings	
51	7	*foliosa* x *laevigata albopurpurea*
52	11	*foliosa* x Dorothea K. Williamson
66	2	52018 x *laevigata albopurpurea*

Some seed in above series germinated late in summer of 1928 and a few of the seedlings are now nearly three inches tall. At the present date (November 1, 1928) twenty-two series show no germination above ground. However, many of them appear to be good.

III. Breeding Work with Irises at The New York Botanical Garden during May, 1928

The breeding of Irises under the scholarship awarded by The American Iris Society for the year 1928 was scheduled to begin during the second week of June. In preparation for this work certain plants of *I. fulva* and of Japanese Irises had been placed in large pots during the autumn of 1927, kept in a cold frame

FIG. 3. The dwarf seedlings in center of figure are in series 70, *spuria* × *Baxteri*. Other plants shown are: Series 76, *virginica* 53039 × 56733; 82, *spuria* × *Brachycarpa*; 72, *Pseudacorus* × 53039; 74, *virginica* × *versicolor*; 31, *Baxteri* × *laevigata*; 33, *virginica* × *laevigata*; 62, *versicolor* × *carolina*; 67, Dancing Nymph × *chrysographes*. Many of these hybrids are especially tall and vigorous.

during part of the winter, and then brought into a hothouse in order to induce formation of early flowers for use in crosses. Some of these plants began to flower in May and these were utilized in crossing.*

Iris fulva was used as a seed parent in seventeen combinations, two of which gave seed. *I. fulva* x 57054 (a mauve and cream colored Iris from California) resulted in a capsule with three good seeds. *I. fulva* x 49601, a Japanese variety, gave only one good

* The pollinations were all made by Clyde Chandler.

seed. It is interesting to note that *I. fulva* as a seed parent failed in the crosses with *I. savannarum* and *I. Hookeri* but in the reciprocal crosses numerous seeds were obtained. As a pollen parent *I. fulva* was used in eighteen combinations but only one gave seed and this was of a cross with *I. versicolor* no. 53038. *I. versicolor* x 48275 (a Japanese Iris) produced thirty-six seed which were the only seed obtained from the eighteen combinations using *I. versicolor* as a seed parent. The low percentage of successful crosses was probably due to the fact that unusual combinations were attempted. Some of these unsuccessful cross-pollinations were: *I. tectorum,* a blue crested Iris, x Crane's Feather, a Japanese Iris; *I. tectorum* x beardless forms as *I. fulva, I. savannarum,* and *I. vinicolor,* all of which are southern species. Crosses between *I. fulva* and other beardless Irises as *I. tenax* and *I. Hookeri* were attempted but with only negative results.

The white *I. tectorum* was used in similar combinations but with no positive results.

Attempts were also made to cross the beardless Irises of the south with Japanese forms. Sixteen combinations between Japanese and beardless Irises failed while two as mentioned above were successful.

Summary

In this work a total of 157 cross-pollinations of flowers envolving a total of 87 combinations were made. The ones which were successful to the point of yielding few or many viable seeds are:

Iris fulva × No. 57054 (a cream colored Iris of California)
Iris fulva × No. 49601 (Japanese Iris)
Iris savannarum × *Iris fulva*
Iris versicolor (53038) × *Iris fulva*
Iris versicolor × 48275 (Japanese)
Iris 56245 (blue; California) × Iris 57054 (mauve; California)

REPORT ON THE 1928 IRIS BREEDING SCHOLARSHIP AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN*

By Katie C. Kirkpatrick and A. B. Stout

The plans for the breeding of Irises under a scholarship grant from The American Iris Society for the season 1928 were mainly (1) to give special attention to crossing various types with the Japanese Irises in the hope that some would be successful, and (2) to continue and extend the efforts to cross *I. fulva* with forms more hardly in the north. During the month of June there was opportunity to attempt some crosses with various Apogon Irisis. During July the work was chiefly directed to the Japanese Irises. Plants of several Japanese Irises, selected by Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham, were forced in a greenhouse and these were used as fully as conditions would allow in making cross-pollinations with various early flowering varieties.

The methods used were the same as those employed in 1925, 1926, and 1927, as reported in The Bulletin of The American Iris Society.** Many of the plants used as seed parents grew in the display beds and hence the flowers could not be bagged to control pollination fully. But the flowers worked were emasculated and the falls and standards were removed while in the bud and this was done during the day previous to the pollination. With this method there is slight chance for stray pollination by insects.

Various of the plants used have not yet been identified or named, and hence they simply bear the accession numbers as recorded in the tabulations of results.

Results of the Pollinations

The crested *Iris tectorum* was used as a seed parent in crosses with *Iris fulva* and with two plants of no's 49601 and 56622. No capsules were obtained.

The bearded Iris Anne Leslie was crossed as a seed parent with *Iris fulva*, and a plant no. 49580 and another bearded Iris White

* This scholarship was granted to Miss Katie C. Kirkpatrick who made all the pollinations here reported. Special thanks are due to Miss Clyde Chandler for assistance and cooperation, and for the collection of seed. For assistance and advice in planning the work much credit is to be given to Mr. John C. Wister and Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham.

** See Bulletins for July, 1925; October, 1926; and April, 1928.

King, was crossed with *I. fulva, I. laevigata,* and *I. tectorum* but in no case were capsules produced.

In reporting the results of other pollinations in detail in the following tabulations the names of the two plants involved in each cross are given and the number of flowers that were pollinated is indicated. When capsules did not begin to develop, no further record is given and hence blanks in the second and third columns mean complete failure. The numbers in the second column record how many capsules began to develop. In many cases these either ceased to develop or contained no good seeds when ripe, and this is indicated by blanks in the last column. The relative number of seeds obtained that apparently contained embryos is indicated by "few," "many," and "numerous." In this list the specific names of supposedly good species are given in italics.

TABLE I

THE RESULTS OBTAINED WHEN JAPANESE IRISES WERE USED AS SEED PARENTS

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
Anna Christ x *chrysographes*	24	19	many
Crane's Feather x *chrysographes*	27	10	
x *foliosa*	6		
x *fulva*	16		
x *Pseudacorus*	4		
x *vinicolor*	11		
Gold Bound (49591) x *chrysographes*	32	21	numerous
x *fulva*	20		
x 58174	19		
Ho-o-Jo x *chrysographes*	3		
x *hexagona*	8		
Kaiodaisan x *chrysographes*	4	3	
x *foliosa*	8	1	
x 57065	8		
x 58174	5	1	
Kasugano x 57969	7	2	few
Kombarin x *chrysographes*	8	3	numerous
x *fulva*	3		
x *hexagona*	9		
Krempper's Blushing Empress x *chrysographes*	2	2	numerous
x *fulva*	1		
x 58174	8		
Kwin Kumo x *chrysographes*	9	3	few
x *hexagona*	8		

TABLE I—(CONTINUED)

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
laevigata (123) x *chrysographes*	8		
x *foliosa*	4		
x Snow Queen	5		
laevigata (125) x *chrysographes*	4		
x Snow Queen	4		
laevigata (49608) x *fulva*	1		
x *tectorum*	2		
x *versicolor*	1		
Lester Lovett x *chrysographes*	16	8	many
x *hexagona*	21		
Neptune x 58174	2		
O Torige x *chrysographes*	8		
x *fulva*	9		
x *fulva*	16		
x 58174	8	3	
x 58190	16		
Tora-odari x *chrysographes*	14	6	few
x *foliosa*	8		
x *fulva*	8	4	
x Snow Queen	6		
x 58154	8		
Yomo-no-Umi x *chrysographes*	14	5	
x *foliosa*	8		
x *fulva*	12		
x 57967	8		
x 58175	8		
48274 x *fulva*	1		
49574 x *fulva*	1		
49580 x *chrysographes*	3		
x *fulva*	17		
x Snow Queen	3		
x *tectorum*	4		
x *versicolor rosea*	5		
49601 x Caesar	1		
x *fulva*	1		
x Emperor	1		
x *tectorum*	1		
49608 x *fulva*	1		
x *tectorum*	2		
x 57510	1		

In addition to the crosses recorded above, five different plants of Japanese Irises without name or number were employed as seed parents with crosses to such Irises as *I. hexagona*, *I. chrysographes*, and *I. delavayi*, but for these no seeds were obtained.

In the results recorded in Table I, it is to be noted that various Japanese Irises gave seeds to crosses with *I. chrysographes*.

TABLE II

THE RESULTS OBTAINED WHEN BEARDLESS IRISES WERE USED AS SEED PARENTS

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
Caesar (54132) x *fulva*	4		
x Red Emperor	2		
x *tectorum*	1		
x 49580	2		
x 49601	1		
caroliniana x *fulva*	3		
chrysographes (58146) x Crane's Feather	18	14	numerous
x *fulva*	1		
x *hexagona*	19	6	
x 55115	8	4	
chrysographes Epoulette (54925)			
x Crane's Feather	2	1	few
x *fulva*	19	5	many
x Snow Queen	6		
x 49580	16		
delavayi (54923) x *fulva*	4		
x *spuria*	3		
x *vinicolor*	7	6	
Emperor x *fulva*	16	1	
x *laevigata*	3		
x *laevigata albopurpurea*	6	3	
x *lobelia*	7		
x *tectorum*	3		
x 49574	1	1	
x 49601	8		
x 56622	5		
fulva x *chrysographes*	2		
x Crane's Feather	2		
x *Douglasiana*	1		
x *foliosa*	9		
x *laevigata albopurpurea*	2		
x Snow Queen	45	2	
x *tectorum*	6		
x Series 6	1		
x 49580	31	6	
x 52400	5		
x 56626	6		
x 58166	1		
x 58173	5		
fulva (58155) x *fulva*	7		
x Snow Queen	2		
x 49580	5		
fulva (58167) x 58166	1	1	few
fulvala x Crane's Feather	8		
x *fulva*	3	1	few
x Snow Queen	6	2	
x 49580	4	1	

TABLE II—(CONTINUED)

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
foliosa x Crane's Feather	10		
x *fulva*	19	8	
x *vinicolor*	8	1	
x 49580	8	3	
x 56622	3	1	
x 56626	8	5	
x Snow Queen	3		
hexagona (54123) x *fulva*	8	5	few
hexagona (58190) x *chrysographes*	32	12	few
hexagona (58223) x *fulva*	1	1	
laevigata (54927) x *fulva*	1		
x 49601	1	1	
laevigata albopurpurea x *chrysographes*	3		
x Crane's Feather	2		
x Red Emperor	3		
x *fulva*	10		
x 49601	3		
x 55119	1		
orientalis x *fulva*	9		
x *laevigata*	1	1	
Polakii (5589) x *fulva*	7		
x *Pseudacorus*	1		
x *versicolor rosea*	1		
prismatica x *fulva*	33	9	
x *laevigata*	8		
x *lobelia*	10		
x *Pseudacorus*	23	2	many
x Snow Queen	17	7	
x *tectorum*	8	1	
x *versicolor rosea*	14		
x 48275	3		
x 49580	19	10	
x 49601	3		
x 56638	4		
x 56643	8	4	many
Pseudacorus x Crane's Feather	8		
x *fulva*	42	5	many
x Snow Queen	6	1	few
x *tectorum*	2		
x 49580	2		
x 49601	3		
x 56622	5	1	few
Pseudacorus bastardi x *tectorum*	2		
x Snow Queen	4		
Red Emperor x *fulva*	10		
spuria 47261 x Crane's Feather	2	1	
spuria (48230) x *fulva*	11	2	
Snow Queen x *fulva*	20	1	
x *laevigata*	1		

TABLE II—(CONTINUED)

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
x *versicolor rosea*	8		
x 56638			
True Blue (50140) x *fulva*	10		
x Red Emperor	4		
x Snow Queen	2		
x 49580	5		
True Blue x Crane's Feather	2		
x *fulva*	19		
x Red Emperor	5		
x 49601	5		
versicolor (?) x Crane's Feather	2		
x *fulva*	20		
x *lobelia*	4		
x Polakii	2		
x *Pseudacorus*	3		
x *vinicolor*	3		
x 48274	3		
x 48275	2		
x 49574	2		
x 49601	3		
x 56622	2		
versicolor (?) x Crane's Feather	10		
x Red Emperor	4		
x *fulva*	47	2	
x *lacvigata*	4	4	
x *Pseudacorus*	9		
x Snow Queen	1		
x *versicolor rosea*	2		
x *vinicolor*	2		
x 48274	5		
x 48275	5		
x 49601	2		
x 52400	1		
x 56643	2		
versicolor (?) x *fulva*	12		
x *laevigata albopurpurea*	8	1	
x *Pseudacorus*	4		
x Snow Queen	9		
x *vinicolor*	12		
x 49601	4		
x 52400	3		
x 58173	5		
versicolor (?) x *fulva*	5	1	
versicolor rosea x *fulva*	19		
x *laevigata*	4	4	
x *laevigata albopurpurea*	1		
x Snow Queen	6		
x *vinicolor*	2		
x 49580	2		

TABLE II—(CONTINUED)

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
versicolor (52154) x *fulva*	12	1	many
x *versicolor*	6		
x *Pseudacorus*	4		
x Snow Queen	4		
x 49580	4		
versicolor (52364) x *fulva*	18	4	
x *laevigata*	3	1	few
x *lobelia*	8		
x *Pseudacorus*	7	1	
x *tenax*	8		
x *vinicolor*	16		
x 49380	9	7	
x 49601	3		
x 56638	8		
versicolor (52456) x *fulva*	15		
x Snow Queen	8		
x 56643	2		
versicolor (55211) x *fulva*	4		
x 49601	8		
versicolor (55471) x *fulva*	1		
versicolor (55473) x *fulva*	1		
versicolor (56642) x *fulva*	2		
x *laevigata*	1		
x *tectorum*	1		
x 49580			
versicolor (56726) x *fulva*	4		
versicolor (56730) x *fulva*	11		
versicolor (56738) x *fulva*	3		
x Snow Queen	5		
versicolor (56741) x *fulva*	1		
x 49601	3		
versicolor (56899) x *Pseudacorus*	2		
x Snow Queen	6		
versicolor (56902) x *fulva*	6		
x 56622	4		
versicolor (56909) x *fulva*	3		
vinicolor (56622) x *fulva*	5	1	
x *foliosa*	2		
x Snow Queen	5		
x 49580	2		
x 57054	1		
x 57196	1		
vinicolor (56638) x Snow Queen	1		
vinicolor (58154) x *fulva*	10	1	
virginica (53039) x Crane's Feather	3		
x *fulva*	12		
x *laevigata*	3	2	
x *tectorum*	6		

TABLE II—(CONTINUED)

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
x *vinicolor*	3		
x 49601	3	1	
x 57054	2		
" (49601)	1	1	few
No name x *fulva*	2	2	many
52018 x Crane's Feather	12		
x *foliosa*	4		
x *fulva*	16		
x 58154	4		
52154 x *fulva*	1		
52348 x Crane's Feather	4		
52370 x Crane's Feather	1		
x *fulva*	7		
x 49580	8		
x 58179	9		
52391 x *chrysographes*	1		
52398 x Crane's Feather	2	1	
x *fulva*	8		
x Snow Queen	6		
x 58179	4		
54812 x Crane's Feather	1		
54814 x *fulva*	1		few
54927 x *laevigata*	1	1	few
55472 x *fulva*	1		
55475 x *fulva*	7		
x 48275	5		
56620 x *fulva*	3		
x *laevigata*	3	2	few
x 48274	3	1	
56622 x 48274	1		
x 49574	1		
x *fulva*	1	1	few
56626 x *fulva*	1	1	few
x Snow Queen	2		
56627 x Crane's Feather	1		
x *fulva*	2		
x 49580	1	1	
56638 x *fulva*	1		
x Snow Queen	1		
56643 x *fulva*	1		
x *versicolor*	1		
x 48274	1		
56648 x *versicolor*	1		
57005 x *chrysographes*	3		
57967 x Crane's Feather	2		
57969 x Crane's Feather	2	1	
x *fulva*	2	1	many
58130 x *fulva*	1		

TABLE II—(CONTINUED)

SEED PARENT x POLLEN PARENT	No. of flowers pollinated	Capsules starting to develop	Relative number of seeds
58154 x *fulva*	1	1	many
58156 x *fulva*	2	2	few
58158 x *foliosa*	2		
x 49580	1		
58166 x *fulva*	2	2	
58168 x *fulva*	3	1	few
x Cane's Feather	4	4	
58172 x 49580	1	1	
58173 x *fulva*	3		
x 49580	2	2	
58174 x *fulva*	2	1	
x Snow Queen	3		
x 49580	4	4	
x 58154	2		
58178 x 49580	1		
58179 x *fulva*	6		
x Snow Queen	15		
58254 x *fulva*	4		
x *laevigata albopurpurea*	1		
x 48274	1	1	
x 56622	1		
x 56643	1		

Five different seedlings grown from the seed obtained by Dr. Moore in 1925 were used as seed parents in crosses with *I. fulva* and Snow Queen, and from one combination with *I. fulva* eleven seeds were obtained.

A survey of the results recorded in Tables I and II shows that the majority of the crosses attempted failed to yield seeds and in many cases capsules did not even begin to develop. It would appear that many of these crosses cannot be accomplished. However, in the combinations where inmature capsules were obtained there may be a chance that if a very large number of flowers are pollinated a few viable seeds may be obtained.

Crosses between various Japanese Irises and *Iris chrysographes* were very successful in giving numerous seeds. The latter is a late-blooming, purple-flowered, beardless iris. Several crosses with pollen or *Iris fulva* gave "many" or "few" seed.

The seeds from the successful crosses have been planted and the seedlings will be grown. The production of flowers by them is awaited with considerable interest.

OUTLINE OF 1929 IRIS BREEDING WORK NEW YORK BOTANIC GARDEN

1. Dr. Stout offers to investigate special problems of sterility which may be sent in by members—also to test any varieties sent in for pollen sterility or ovule sterility.
2. Study of keeping quality of pollen.
3. Breeding work.
   a. Crosses to be made between species as in 1928, making attempts at those which failed in the past.
   b. Crosses to be made again with fulva and other species which were successfully crossed in 1928.
4. Work with hybrid seedlings.
   a. Study them for selection.
   b. Self and cross for second generation.
   c. Make back crosses for more fulva blood.
   d. Special study of *kaempferi* × *chrysographes*.

TABLE IRIS

Ethel Anson S. Peckham

We spend a great deal of time in writing and reading articles in the horticultural press, in emphasizing at flower-shows and in conversation extolling flowers of immense size. So much is this so that we quite overlook the uses of the smaller sorts of the very same majestic affairs we are praising. This is too often the case where Irises are concerned. Tall Irises have their place and, if they are to be tall, the stems must be sturdy enough to hold up the large flowers which would be in proportion to the long stalks. Foliage must be broad and heavy or it will look starved and poor when compared with the tall branches of bloom. It seems difficult then, if our gardens are to have nothing but these giants, to use them as cut-flowers unless we place them in big jars on the floor. Here they will look well, but why do we have to forego the use of Irises on our tables just because all we grow are too coarse to be suitable? Those of us who have had any sort of experience with flower-arrangement know that it is wrong to cut off long-stemmed, large-

flowered plants and stick them down into a small receptacle. Also we know that flowers should be fine of their kind and in good condition to use on our dining tables and that they should be chosen from those that are not of a size to make them apparently overwhelm the vase or bowl in which they are displayed. This attention to proportion is the first element of success in table decoration and it should not be overlooked in the garden where a short-stemmed plant should never have very large flowers. If a mass of color be desired it is better, in a dwarf plant, to choose a variety that is floriferous but with well-shaped blooms of a size to balance the height.

With these axioms in view it behooves us, then, to grow some Irises that will give us cut-flowers for different settings in our houses. This is easy when the Siberian varieties come into bloom, for their graceful, slender stalks and spidery flowers with grassy foliage lend themselves to good arrangements not easily spoiled by the inexperience of a beginner.

The early Dwarf-bearded varieties can be made into fascinating table decorations by treating them as if they gere growing plants, combining them with rock-plants, mosses and even a stone or two. Attractive combinations are not hard to evolve, for the dark purple, pale yellow and white or cream of these Irises blends with almost anything one tries with them. The only thing to avoid is the use of a plant that is of too exotic an appearance for their rather coarse fiber. I do not say that the texture of the petals is coarse but the clumsy, dome-like shape of the flowers and the thick stems and stumpy leaves do make one feel that they are flowers to use with pottery rather than with porcelain. Porcelain we would choose for our dainty native *Iris cristata* and, if lucky enough to possess it, *Iris canadensis*. *Iris gracilipes* again would grace the finest of china and combined with delicate ferns, young fronds just pushing up, would not be amiss with glass of even the most fragile composition. And to use with glass what could be better than *I. graminea?* I once saw an exquisite arrangement made by Mrs. Montague of this Iris in a rich, purple-red, flat glass dish. As, in the garden, the blooms hide far down among the foliage it is not showy there and if we did not cut it and arrange it in the house we should miss three quarters of its beauty. *Iris ensata* has the same trouble, for the leaves are too long and wiry to be attractive except as incipient tying material or bedding for dogs; but the flowers can

be used to advantage if a little ingenuity in the association of other flowers, which have graceful foliage, be exercised. The California Irises are good subjects for table centers, especially *Iris tenax,* which one can have in varying hues of blue and mauve by raising the plants from seed. All of these are proper in glass receptacles and will look better than when in too coarse a form of pottery. One may use oriental dishes if they are delicate in color and texture, but thick, Spanish pottery should be taboo.

Indeed, I feel as if heavy pottery is not really suitable for any Irises (except those big jars for tall stalks) as the delicate nature of the petals would always tend toward the use of finer tableware. Such flowers as Zinnias can be reserved for this type of "Peasant" ware and it is surprising how the adherence to a few simple rules such as this one will bring results to the exhibitor in decorative classes at our flower-shows.

The Intermediate Irises, including the detested (by some) Zwannenburg which generally blooms in this vicinity with them, can combine well with Cottage Tulips in almost any set of colors one cares to attempt and relieved by Columbines one can have a delectable center-piece for the most formal dinner, or again, with simple china and glass, for the informal luncheon.

But here, in most gardens, we come to an end of Irises suitable for indoor use until the Sibiricas begin; so let us encourage the brave breeder who is willing to save, propagate and introduce seedlings which are on a small scale but have fine color, form, carriage and proportion. Miss Sturtevant has a set of really charming plants she is playing with that will come right into line to fill this gap. She calls them her "Tom Tits" because in the character of their size and manner of growth they resemble that very good little Iris. Mr. Williamson, too, has a group of what he names his "Runts." A cruel name for a good set of Irises that are much needed. The word *runt* to me signifies a little thing that is crooked, stunted and generally ugly. These are charming and well worthy of a place in the front of a border; but for cutting and arranging on the table both these "strains" will be ideal.

Let us beg these pioneers in a good cause to be undiscouraged and to go on with their fine work, producing for us what could be suitably termed "Table Iris."

SYMPOSIUM VOTES AS AN INDEX OF IRIS POPULARITY AND DISSEMINATION

E. N. S. Ringueberg, M.D.

In looking over the recent symposium I became interested to see the fate of the fifty-one varieties listed by me in the A. I. S. Bulletin, January, 1928, as the best all around varieties chosen by the best of authorities then available. I found all but one, Mandraliscae, which had been moved into the Intermediate section. That left fifty, no one of which received less than twenty votes in the garden rating from the jury—the lowest being Mrs. H. Darwin 70, the highest Ambassadeur 91. Rearrangement of these on the basis of the number of votes with garden rating is given below.

No. of votes		Rating
42	L. A. Williamson	88
41	Ambassadeur	91
40	Queen Caterina	88
	Monsignor	77
39	Ballerine	89
	S. de Mme. Gaudichau	88
	Prospero	82
	Afterglow	82
	B. Y. Morrison	80
	Lord of June	78
	Lohengrin	72
38	Princess Beatrice	90
	Alcazar	87
	Archeveque	81
	Medrano	87
	Shekinah	84
	Isoline	84
	Her Majesty	74
	Queen of May	74
37	Jacquesiana	78
36	Seminole	83
	Opera	83
	Iris King	80
	Fairy	78
35	Prosper Laugier	84
	Dream	84
	Ma Mie	80
34	Rhein Nixie	82
	White Knight	80
	Lorely	78
	Eldorado	75
	Aurea	73
	Flavescens	73
	Caprice	72
33	La Neige	78
32	Delicatissima	80
	Mrs. H. Darwin	70
29	Celeste	72
28	Jeanne d'Arc	71
27	Corrida	84
	Fro	79
	Mount Penn	78
	Miranda	77
	Mrs. A. Gray	74
25	Parc de Neiully	80
24	Tom Tit	79
	Innocenza	71
21	Quaker Lady	75
20	Baronet	78

The above poll, undertaken in an idle moment, had no further object than to satisfy my own curiosity. But the result was so illuminating, interesting and provocative of thought I was led to apply the method of tabulation to the rest of the Iris deemed worthy a place in the symposium. A minimum of fifteen votes, approximately one-third the jury, was adopted as the limit for inclusion in the lists. This number assures sufficiently wide dissemination and trial of newer varieties for fair stability, and, also, matured decision on older varieties still deserving a place in the sun.

The garden rating is that with which the majority of us are concerned, though the exhibition rating is of interest to us all and especially to the exhibitor and the specialist. The separation of these ratings is a valuable and outstanding feature of the present symposium. We must remember that it is in the garden that final judgment on an Iris is passed. We may admire the beauty, the perfection of form and graceful poise of a fine specimen stalk to the utmost and approve the justice of the high rating, but, if, for any reason, the variety is finnicky, requires protection or special care, or a certain climate, or is an unreliable and shy bloomer we pass on with regret that, like the orchid, it is not for the common herd.

Low rating should not condemn an Iris utterly; for it may be useful, in fact, indispensable in the garden for certain color or mass effects. As Mr. R. S. Sturtevant remarked in speaking of the yellows, "We still feel the need of using at least a few varieties of low ratings in order to develop our garden pictures to the best advantage." Some may go a step further and look at an Iris from purely an impressionistic point of view and consider it simply as a splash of pigment with which to paint the garden picture as does Countess Senni when she says, "I care almost nothing for form and but little for size, generally color is the only thing that interests me," and again, "all these notes are purely from the point of view of color, and form is not considered at all." We may admire an Iris for its fine foliage accent in the garden picture, but if it refuses to add its mite of color in its season, the average gardener will use something else to fill the gap.

By using the lighter colors with bold broad strokes, brighter tints with deft touches here and there, reserving the more vivid rich colors and darker tones for accents and necessary contrasts for strong relief a garden picture can be made rivalling in luminosity a painting by Sorolla.

Mr. Wister asks and answers, "Why a Symopsium?" I would like to ask and, in part discuss, "Why a Vote?" In the first place the Iris must be seen by the juror to be voted on, the size of the vote supposedly giving an index to the dissemination of the variety at that time. This, of course, might be taken to indicate popularity as well; but this is not always so, especially of the newer varieties where the distribution may have been artificially stimulated by shrewd advertisement, or by an excess of enthusiasm of a few who

are press agents by instinct. Popularity is of slower growth and, in the end, dissemination will be controlled by it. The rating depends first upon the personal reaction to size, form and color, but, also, if he is a grower, upon its selling quality. In other words his vote reflects public taste which acts as a check on discards or too high rating on a variety giving him great pleasure.

In comparatively recent introductions, as has been cited by some members, the rating has a tendency to be unduly high. This is probably due to the fact that the price is usually high and prohibits purchase except by the few to whom the appeal is strong. This brings them under observation by those inclined to rate high on account of personal preferences.

In the first Symposium we could see how many votes were in each column from 9.5 to 5. In some varieties the range covered almost the entire scale from very good to discard. Suppose the goddess of chance decided the fate upon the three or four to whom that type of Iris appealed, or vice versa, what would be the result? If they received only three votes, Sherwin Wright would be either 87 or 43, Tamerlane 85 or 46, Gold Crest 88 or 56. If four votes were to decide, Clio would be either 85 or 55, Dr. Bernice 86 or 60, and Fairy 91 or 70. In the latest symposium the number of jurors voting is not given in the columns of rating. I suppose Mr. Connell who compiled it could give some interesting examples of difference in taste.

The following list of varieties in addition to the fifty already noted, received more than fifteen votes. In going down the scale the groups are made up more and more of the newer varieties with a sprinkling of the old in decreasing ratio. With the deluge of new introductions how many will triumphantly ride on the crest of the wave of popularity or be submerged by the oncoming tide and left stranded when the tide goes out it is impossible to estimate.

No. of votes		Rating	No. of votes		Rating	No. of votes		Rating
48	Mother of Pearl	84		Sherwin-Wright	72		Mary Garden	72
39	Mme. Chereau	70	34	Morning Splendor	91	33	Sweet Lavender	87
38	Wyomissing	72		Crusader	25		Nancy Orne	81
37	Edouard Michel	81		Mlle. Schwartz	84		Mme. Chobaut	80
	Kochi	80		Conquistador	83		Dalila	79
36	Leverrier	82		Lady Foster	82		Anne Leslie	74
35	Ochracea	82		Anna Farr	77	32	Dominion	82
	Perfection	79		Parisiana	75		Oriflamme	77

No. of votes		Rating
32	Albert Victor	76
	Black Prince	72
	Mrs. Neubronner	69
	Nibelungen	65
31	Cardinal	92
	Mildred Presby	87
	Phyllis Bliss	84
	Mme. Cheri	83
	Caterina	83
	Mid West	80
	Sindjkha	80
	Roseway	78
	Virginia Moore	77
31	Sherbert	76
	Pr. Victoria Louise	74
	Windham	71
30	Susan Bliss	86
	Cluny	80
29	E. H. Jenkins	81
	Mady Carriere	80
	Nine Wells	79
	Montezuma	79
28	Aphrodite	88
	Ann Page	85
	Steepway	82
	Hermione	81
28	Flammenschwert	80
	Neptune	79
	Troost	79
27	Mary Williamson	80
	Olive Perthuis	78
26	Tenebrae	88
	Gold Imperial	87
	Duke of Bedford	87
	Taj Mahl	81
	Cecil Minturn	81
	Azure	74
	Nuee d'Orange	72
	Blue Jay	71
26	Mme. Durand	87
	Moa	85
	San Gabriel	84
	Canopus	83
	Avalon	81
	Dimity	78
	Dora Longdon	78
	Pocahontas	77
	Gold Crest	76
	Dawn	75
24	Citronella	85
	True Charm	84
	Brandywine	82
	Tristram	75
	E. L. Crandell	71
23	Germaine Perthuis	90
	Imperator	84
	Harriet Presby	83
	Valery Mayet	82
	Halo	81
	Mary Orth	81
	Camelot	80
	Wild Rose	80
	Moliere	79
	Red Riding Hood	74
22	Titan	82
	Merlin	77
	Empire	76
	Knysna	76
	Swatara	76
	Zouave	76
	Cretonne	76
	Raffet	74
	Dr. Bernice	73
	Richard II	73
21	Argynnis	83
	Balboa	82
	Gaviota	82
	Ambigu	79
	Aurora	79
	Grevin	78
	Arnols	78
	Mrs. Walter Brewster	78
	Red Cloud	75
	Pauline	74
	Powhatan	74
	Clematis	20
	Glowing Embers	86
	Julia Marlowe	85
	Mme. Henri Cayeux	85
	Simone Vassiere	84
	Athene	83
	White Queen	81
	Louis Bel	81
	Carthusian	80
	Drake	79
	W. J. Freyer	79
	Leonato	78
19	S. d. Loetitia Michaud	90
	Santa Barbara	89
	Esplendido	86
	Chasseur	85
	Jubilee	84
	Robert Wallace	83
	Marsh Marigold	81
	Princess Osra	80
	Stanley H. White	79
	Ben Bow	78
	Du Guesclin	77
	Dalmarius	74
	Clio	70
18	George J. Tribolet	88
	Yellow Moon	84
	Reverie	82
	Chalice	82
	Peau Rouge	82
	M. Brun	81
	Rodney	77
	Dusky Maid	77
	Sarpedon	77
	Fenella	74
	Trianon	74
	Mme. Boullet	73
	Tineae	70
	Mme. de Sevigne	66
17	Valencia	86
	Lord Lambourne	85
	Arlington	84
	Jean Cheverau	81
	Prince Lohengrin	81
	Morwell	80
	Arsace	79
	Prof. Seeliger	77
	Eglamour	77
	Oporto	75
	Minnehaha	73
	Sarabande	73
	Hiawatha	68
	Gules	60
16	Pioneer	90
	Mme. C. Bouscant	88
	Rheingauperle	87
	Lady Byng	83
	Daphne	81
	Grapta	81
	Yvonne Pelletier	81
	Salonique	78
	Shalimar	76
	Turco	75
	Mariposa	75
	Syphax	75
	Blue Bird	74
	Tamerlan	73
	Navajo	71
	James Boyd	68
15	Mary Barnett	90
	Glamour	86
	Yeoman	85
	Toreador	83
	Damozel	82
	Antonio	81
	Silverado	81
	Rheintraube	79
	Mrs. Freyer	77
	Tintallion	76
	Lancelot	76
	Mrs. Cowley	75
	Miss Wilmot	72
	Cordelia	72
	Gov. Hughes	68
	Romeo	68
	Margaret Moor	65

"NO-MAN'S-KLATTER"

Real News for Strugglers

(A Valentine to the Editor)

Convalescing from a recent attack of grippe we decided to paste into our scrap-book the heterogeneous accumulation of clippings from horticultural magazines, papers and so forth. Among this conglomeration of good, practical hints, sentimental, and aesthetic articles, padded and distorted facts, we came across an interesting little column written a year or two ago by Mrs. Pattison on "Naming Irises." In this she remarks upon the objections to naming plants after people, saying they are rarely so graceful as the plants their names adorn. She compliments some of the breeders upon their selection of names; but, she quite forgets to mention the agonies the Iris breeder goes through when a name has to be chosen. And after these troubles, after the labor of invention, imitation, and production is through with, the edict the breeder is sure to suffer from (sent back by the American Iris Society Registration Bureau) "that his names are too long, that they too nearly resemble names already in use and that they are, indeed, the same as some well known Irises already introduced. This latter case is easy when we consider the eight thousand odd (very odd) names now on record. All this being fact, perhaps the members of the American Iris Society would like to know how several neighbors, all raisers of Irises (we do not say just how they rate), have solved this difficult problem. After the usual family quarrels, after the men had met together in solemn conclave, had sat up all night and reached no conclusion; after the wives had spent many hours that should have been put upon the cultivation of their plants, without deciding anything except that they would not allow the husbands to name any of the seedlings; after all were exhausted, tongues were dry and refused to wag; after all this, they agreed: that each family should name their own, and that the high principles of the American Iris Society should be adherred to. All retired to their respective homes on the understanding that at noon the next day the lists would be complete.

Now, these neighbors were of varied tastes. One family was composed of a mild husband married to a domineering woman of Quaker and Puritan descent. They decided (or rather the wife did) to revert to early methods of nomenclature, so they dusted off the family Bible and began. First one and then the other would place a finger in the Book, then they would both look at the word selected. *Every time it came out to be something likely to be cut out by the Censor!* So then the wife, in despair, allowed her husband to suggest. He did. "The encyclopedia," ejaculated he. The very first word was BLATHERY. "Not such a bad name at that and just as sensible as many I know," they chorused. So they rose early, dug up all their *other* seedlings and threw them on the dump!

Couple number two, composed of an energetic but meek wife and a genial spouse, had no difficulty. They chose names of the things they cared for most. Thus it was simple for them to select a name for any color, shape or height. Hence the now famous MAYONAISE came into being. You remember it, that rich, smooth yellow? Another of theirs, FOAMING ALE, is a fine brown amoena. WAFFLES, the pretty pale brown cross-hatched intermediate, and PANCAKE, the wide-spread variegata, are almost good enough to serve with MAPLE SYRUP, their other of the same group. HARDBAKE, the unusual new brown with almond-shaped white spots, is unique as are the whole "strain" of "Butter Irises" that these specialists are now so celebrated for. Following are descriptions of a few of these: BUTTERNUT and BUTTERSCOTCH, yellow blends; BUTTERTHIN, a dainty light yellow; BUTTERPUFF, very pale cream self; BUTTERBALL, a deep yellow dwarf with flowers of substance; and BUTTERMILK, a bluish white.

The third family are desperate as they were an evenly and decently balanced lot. Being unable to think of any satisfactory names, they agreed, as the husband had to start betimes to his business, that the first up in the morning should rush to the window and call out the name of the first object meeting the eye. *HORSE* was the magic word! Now you know the secret of SAWHORSE, HORSEFLY and CHARLEYHORSE!!

Only remains the odd person of this group of pleasant friends, a meditative bachelor. Without telling the rest, he named *all* his seedlings, registered the names at once, and here they are! YULE-

BESORI, WUNLUNG, SUFFRENKATZ and SWONDERFUL he had no plants for, but he registered them just the same "to hold the names"! SARMLESS is a blue self, BLACK BUTTERFLY is a deep blue and WHITE MULE must not be confused with Dr. Small's new species *albispiritis*. He says: BLACK BUTTERFLY was named in honor of a high official of the American Iris Society and he calls his "set" OVERBEARING VARIETIES.

VERA MANGPORC

GARDEN PICTURES, 4

A Bordered Path

R. S. STURTEVANT

Flower borders to either side of a grass or gravel path are a common need and to assume that it parallels a boundary fence where roses and late flowering *Clematis paniculata* may roam is not beyond the bounds of possibility.

Our path is four feet wide and by its measured dimension you may construct a measure whereby you may see at a glance that the small squares of early irises (1) are ten feet apart. The plan shows only a bit of entrance and two sections of ten feet each but suggests that it might be continued indefinitely with slight changes in color scheme in each section to relieve the monotony.

Two points are worth noting in such a plan. Firstly, the repeat plantings, C, 1, and 2, or to a lesser extent because they are back from the path, A, B, 4, and 5 which serve both to suggest a pleasant formality and to carry the eye in rhythmical progression down the path. (If you should put a piece of tracing paper over the plan and quickly draw in lines parallel to the path and suggesting rows of planting one behind the other you would be surprised how, even in plan, the effect proved both less pleasing and less interesting.) Secondly, plantings H and 3 in particular run almost across the bed and as one walks up the path *appear* to give color and interest to much larger areas than they actually fill. (Here again if the paper plan is held almost at eye level it may be easier to visualize how, in perspective, one planting tends to show against another and suggest a solid mass of bloom at each season. In making your own plans the use of colored crayons, one for each period of bloom, quickly shows the distribution of color at a given season).

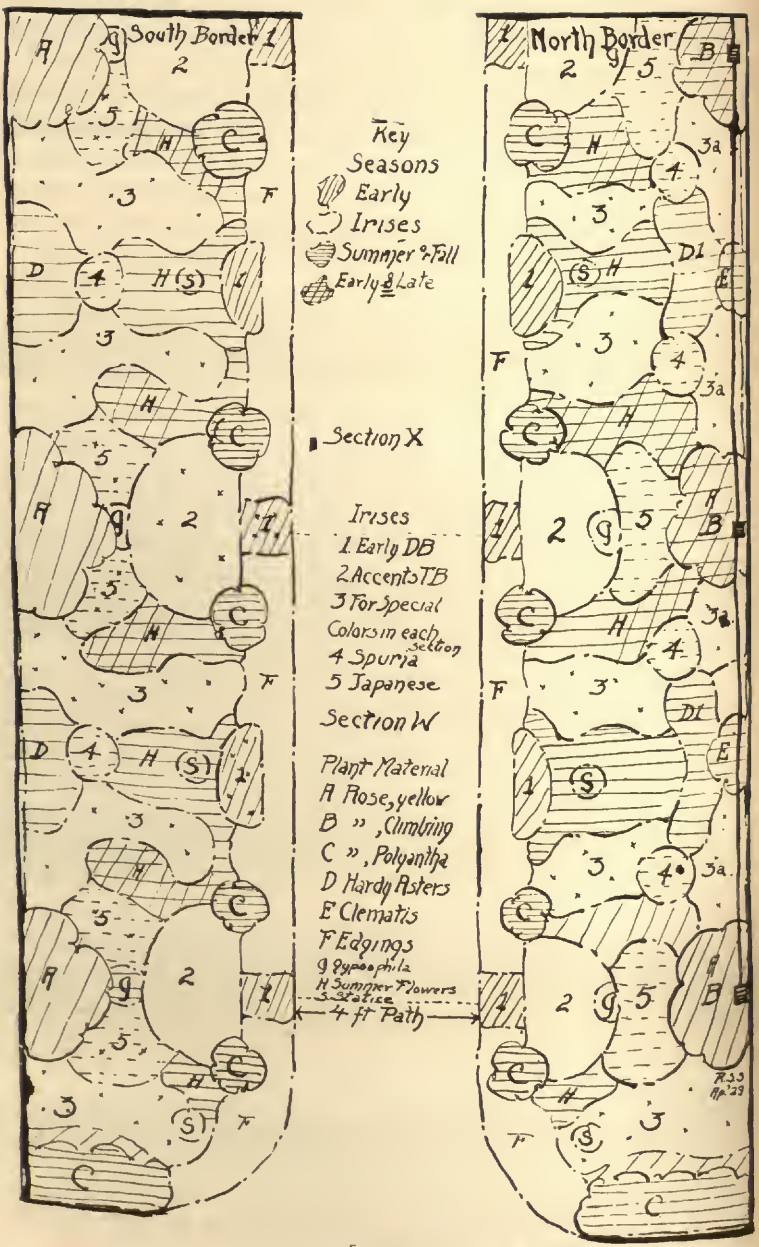
I shall mention but briefly the plant material selected for one solution as variations become merely repetitions of the color schemes described in previous Garden Pictures.

For Irises, 1 indicates the early dwarfs in whatever varieties you choose as the *placing* of the color is at this season even more important than the hue itself. 2 is important as it is repeated at intervals in considerable mass and either one variety or many of one color may be used. Cream and pale lavender of course are best for tieing together the varied tones that I suggest for use at 3. Here comes the real display and interest of the tall bearded Irises. Four to nine plants may be used in each area so designated; one might hold a mass of Caprice lit by a few stalks of Delight, another might be all the rich red-purple of Karen while still another might contain a grouping of Flutterby, L'Aiglon, and Athene, bronze, yellow and white or of Aliquippa, Gaudichau, and My Lady, yellow, purple and white; in each case there being much less of the darkest shades and measurably more of the lighter tints.

At 4 would be stately plants of the spuria and ochroleuca group in lavender or white or yellow and prized almost as much for their stiff foliage as for their late bloom; and lastly at 5 would be the Japanese, each clump as we proceed down the path, of a still darker hue than the last, thus enhancing the effect of distance.

For other plant material I have depended much on roses, the yellows (A) that flower at Iris-time, Persian Yellow, Star of Persia, Harrison's Yellow, the glorious Austrian Copper, all forming bushes of strength and varying size; the climbers (B) on the fence for early summer color and often forming magnificent pictures with the Japanese Irises; and finally the ever-blooming polyanthas (C) as accents in whatever colors you will. Beneath these hardy growers (and also at D) I would carpet with early bulbs and narcissus for my first effect while at H planted beneath shallow summer flowering perennials would be glowing dashes of Cottage tulips, perhaps a yellow range from *T. vitellina* through Ellen Willmott, Moonlight, to Inglescombe Yellow and *gesneriana lutea* or in another range from The Fawn through Fairy Queen to Louis XIV and others of the Breeder tulips.

At D there would be September blooming asters or chrysanthemums, the tallest varieties ranged against the fence (D1). E stands for *Clematis paniculata* and one can just vision its foaming masses with the rich colored New England asters. At F come low edging


South Border
North Border
Key
Seasons
Early
Irises
Summer & Fall
Early & Late
Section X
Irises
1 Early DB
2 Accents TB
3 For Special
Colors in each section
4 Spuria
5 Japanese
Section W
Plant Material
A Rose, yellow
B " , Climbing
C " , Polyantha
D Hardy Asters
E Clematis
F Edgings
G Gypsophila
H Summer Flowers
S Statice
4 ft Path

plants in variety unless you wish to select only ones with dark green, with gray, or variegated foliage. G and S stand for Baby's Breath and *Statice latifolia,* which with their tap-roots that interfere so little with their neighbors and their misty flowerets seem indispensable when one seeks succession of bloom in a small area. And to complete, fill the areas marked H with whatever summer flowers you prefer, annuals or perennials, but always ones with a shallow rooting system that will not crowd too greatly the tulip bulbs below.

I wish some among our members might submit a problem of their own for solution in some future issue.

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Compiled by ETHEL ANSON S. PECKHAM

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TID-BITS 18TH

With the Annual Meeting coming at Ithaca this year many of us will have the opportunity of meeting Dr. and Mrs. Wright, although their special pets, the Dwarf Bearded Irises will not be in bloom. Mrs. Wright reports that ''our dwarf iris clumps are getting heavier now, though many of the imported ones were so small that they are only nicely started, but we hope soon to have a large number with typical bloom.''

* * * * * *

IRIS TECTORUM Maxim.

''The roof iris of the Orient has been the subject of various stories which are everywhere repeated until one wearies of them as of Bacon's inevitable essay on Gardens! The species is by no means only Japanese as one might think, but grows on the continent, China particularly. Like many other plants which come from regions where winter cold is tempered by fog and rain, with little sunlight, this iris suffers in American winters with their freezing temperature, sharp winds, and brilliant sunshine. It seems to be hardy enough as far as its roots are concerned, but the broad green leaves suffer and in time the plants may be weakened enough to succumb. It is easily raised from seed which is produced rather freely and the little seedlings soon come to flowering. The exquisite white form will also breed true from self-fertilized seed. The type varies somewhat in color but is usually a rather rosy lavender with blotches and marblings of a slightly deeper hue. Both types increase naturally by means of the spreading rhizome, which travels in somewhat the same way as our native *I. cristata.*''

The quotation from the January issue of the National Horticultural Magazine, where *Iris tectorum* is well illustrated, has reminded me of a rather entertaining discussion that I am having with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Durand, who have made so deep a study of our native plants and their needs. Mr. Durand casually spoke of *I. tectorum* as so common on the thatched roofs of Brittany and

Normandy, and I immediately questioned the accuracy of the statement if only because I had remembered early references to "flags" and knew that *I. tectorum* had not been introduced into Europe until around 1870. The question is now open to discussion and every few days I hear new echoes pro and con. I wonder how many of our members know the answer.

* * * * * *

THE IRIS SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the English Society it was decided to extend the Trials at Wisley to include all forms of Iris sibirica, English, Spanish, and Dutch Irises. At present there are 1,043 varieties of Bearded Irises on trial. American breeders should remember that plants may be sent to these trials, although the proviso that donors may claim the return of any surplus stock at the end of three years would be subject to our Quarantine 37. It would, however, be possible for an American grower to arrange that such surplus be delivered to a foreign grower for future distribution. Judging from the excellent reports of these trials it is distinctly to the advantage of any breeder to send plants to Wisley.

* * * * * *

WRITINGS OF W. R. DYKES.

Mr. G. P. Paker, Hillside, Oakhill Rd., Kippington, Seven Oaks, Kent, England, is chairman of the plan to publish, by subscription, a reprint of these articles and although our Bulletin No. 19 has given you some of Mr. Dykes' many notes I hope that many of our members may subscribe to so interesting a project. Subscriptions may be sent to J. B. Wallace, Jr., 29 Church St., New Haven, Conn., for forwarding.

* * * * * *

ORANGE, N. J., IRIS GARDEN.

In the 1927 report of the Essex County Park Commission I find echoes of activity on the part of my co-editor, Mrs. McKinney, who is fostering a display garden in Orange Park. Think what it would mean not only to the Society but even more to the beauty of the countryside if every member followed suit!

* * * * * *

BELGIUM; from Joseph Aerts.

A new Director has been appointed to the Central Horticultural School at Vilvorde, who seems most enthusiastic about a display

garden. I have given him about 70 varieties and hope to increase the number to 300 another year. As this is a training school I am hoping that this planting will lead to the formation of a Belgian Iris Society someday. With the International Exposition at Antwerp and Liege coming in 1930 there will be many tourists and I hope to have Irises at Vilvorde for the members of the Society to enjoy.

Irises Ochroleuca and Monneiri in the garden of Joseph Aerts, Belgium

From Mrs. Scheffy, Massachusetts.

"There is one thing about it; I can pretty well guarantee that any irises that have succeeded in acclimating themselves to this part of Massachusetts (18 below zero to 60 above in a few days) and to my exposed field (very much subject to bitter winds an dalternative thawing and freezing) will flourish anywhere. I think there

is a lot in this matter of getting irises used to unfavorable conditions. I always have a high percentage of loss among California-grown irises at first but usually succeed in getting them reconciled to this climate in course of time, if any rag-tags once survive their first winter. Mme. Claude Monet has so far exhibited an invincible passion for martyrdom but it looks as if Edith Cavel was getting accustomed to Massachusetts at last—also Santa Barbara, Coronado, Conquistador, Valencia, Rita, and some others that balked at first.

"I have been specializing to some extent on beardless irises as I have one garden that is specially adapted to them. *I. prismatica* forms a lovely patch, hidden among the pasture blueberries and only discovered by accident one day last year when I was rummaging among the near-by thousands of *I. versicolor* hunting for any especially interesting variations. Over the stone wall in a neighbor's old orchard, the fringed gentian grows abundantly (fringed 'injunctions' he always solemnly calls them) and on other parts of the farm are many other interesting plants, including at least six kinds of orchids, cardinal flowers, rhodora, and a pond in the woods just ringed with sundew and bladderwort.

"I have also found a special pink form of *I. prismatica* which, as far as I have been able to discover, is unique. It is as delicate and dainty as the type."

* * * * * *

From Mr. Auten, Illinois.

"Among the 100 seedlings there was one pale pink only sixteen inches high but with so well-proportioned a flower that it gave me a real thrill as a table center decoration. Personally I abominate these large irises cut with eight-inch stalks and stuck in a flat dish with a frog to hold them, but this one was just the right size and the color a very uniform shell-pink.

"I like the height of some of the Siberian seedlings which makes them valuable in a peony planting for the added color effect. It is the clear deep blue in the Siberians that we should value most highly—Emperor of course is good, but one can get an eyefull of purple from the Bearded Irises."

* * * * * *

JULY PROSPECTS.

"One Hundred Japanese Irises," by Dr. Reed, will be the keynote of the July BULLETIN, with, if space permits, Descriptions,

Part VI. Notes on Iris Chromosomes, collected by Miss F. L. Barrows, will mark our regular Science Series; Dr. J. R. McLeland will tell of his Iris experiments, and Mrs. Largent will write of Texas plantings. With a new Garden Picture, further tid-bits and reviews, and who can tell what fascinating tales of Spring experiences, our July BULLETIN should be well up to standard. I wish, however, more members would contribute more frequently.

Owing to the size of this BULLETIN Mr. Ries' articles on the Iris Borer and the Verbena Bud Moth are being held for July publication.

* * * * * *

"THE IRIS SOCIETY SHOW."

The Iris Society of England expects its Show on June 6th and 7th to be the largest one ever held, and hopes that many members of the American Iris Society will be able to attend it.

Members of the Society who expect to be in England early in June are requested to send in their names to:

John C. Wister, Wister Street & Clarkson Avenue, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.,

and upon arrival in England to:

G. L. Pilkington, Lower Lee, Woolston, Liverpool, England.

TO READ OR NOT-TO-READ

ADDISONIA **14**: No. 9, March, 1929. Irises *violipurpurea, albispiritis, giganticaerulea, chrysophoenicea, miraculosa, chrysoaeola, atrocyanea,* and *verna* (mountain form), beautifully pictured and described by Dr. Small who, at the Autumn Conference of the Scientific Staff of the New York Botanical Garden, spoke on the history of the species of Iris in North America, east of the Mississippi River. Beginning with the botanical publication of the first species by Linnaeus in 1753, there were at the outset of Dr. Small's work eleven generally listed species of Iris growing in this section. Exploration in the Gulf States and contiguous territory added six more species which were published in previous issues and this issue makes even further additions. The three issues of Addisonia devoted to Irises might well be bound together for general reference.

JOURNAL N. Y. BOTANICAL GARDEN **30**: No. 349, 5–10, January, 1929. Notes on Some Iris Troubles by Dr. Bernard O. Dodge. Illustrated. A short article particularly interesting because of observations on *Sclerotium delphinii* as relating to Irises and the possible connection with this disease of maggots of a small fly, *Scaptomyza graminium,* which affects Japanese Irises so seriously.

THE NEW FLORA AND SILVA **1**: No. 99, January, 1929. Two Interesting Irises by Dr. Fritz Lemberg. The irises commented on are *I. arenaria* Wald & Kit, and *I. cilicica.* The author considers *I. arenaria* distinct from *I. flavissima,* while *I. cilicica* he speaks of as a species allied to *I. reticulata.*

GARDEN ILLUSTRATED **51**: **54**, 26, January, 1929. Bearded Irises: "Eastern pallida forms and their descendants," by Sir Arthur Hort. An excellent article explaining the parentage of the so-called "*ricardi*" seedlings which are the subject of current discussion. His comments give a new hope that "*ricardi*" will thrive and hold their own in our gardens.

ALPHABETICAL IRIS CHECK LIST, 1929

This important book will be published by the American Iris Society as of date June 1st, 1929. Notice has already been given of the fact that owing to the great expense necessary to the printing of such a technical work, it will not be distributed free to Members. However, Members will always have the privilege of obtaining it at a lower price than outsiders can and the prices have now been decided upon.

Before June 1st, 1929: to Members, $1.50; Non-members, $2.00. After this date: to Members, $2.00; Non-members, $3.00.

The book will be in permanent form with substantial cover and the same height and width as our BULLETINS, so that, if they should be bound, all could stand together easily on the same shelf.

While a sum has been set aside from the funds of the Society towards the publication of the Check List, it is not sufficient and we hope that the sale of the book to reference libraries, nurseries, seedsmen, students, teachers, amateur and professional gardeners and Iris enthusiasts in general will cover the remainder. Members can help this project by asking the public libraries in their vicinity to buy it and also by bringing it to the attention of teachers of horticulture and of horticulturalists generally. It would be of great use to a Garden Club if they would see that a copy is in the reference-room of the library in their town.

Cheques and money orders should be made out to The American Iris Society and mailed to John B. Wallace, Jr., Secy., 129 Church Street, New Haven, Conn., and remember, *the price goes up June 1st!*

SPECIAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Test Garden Committee is glad to announce that it has made arrangements with Dr. A. B. Stout to help members in any of their special problems of breeding.

Dr. Stout will be glad to correspond with members about their problems and to make tests for them on material they may send in for pollen sterility and ovule sterility. These are technical tests which are sometimes difficult for those without laboratory facilities.

All correspondence concerning breeding matter should be sent direct to Dr. Stout at the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York City.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1929

The 1929 annual meeting will be held in Ithaca, New York, on June 18. The meeting opens at 9:00 A. M., Tuesday, June 18, in Caldwell Hall. Cornell University has set aside Sage Hall as a dormitory for guests. Application for reservations should be sent to Dr. A. C. Beal, Department of Floriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Register at Willard Straight Hall where meals can be procured.

Sleeping car connections for Ithaca can be made from New York City on the Lehigh Valley and Lackawanna Railroads and from Philadelphia on the Lehigh Valley. From Boston connections can be made at Canastota, New York, or by way of Syracuse and Auburn. There is a morning train from Buffalo at 9:30 A. M., which reaches Ithaca at 12:30. This will accommodate sleeping car passengers arriving in Buffalo in the morning, from Cleveland, Detroit, or Chicago. There is also a convenient evening train from Buffalo.

To those coming by automobile Ithaca can be reached via Syracuse, Geneva, Elmira or Binghamton. Ithaca is in the famous Finger Lake region and is most beautiful country for motoring.

Plans are being made for automobile trips to nearby scenic spots on June 19 and for a trip to Indian Springs Farm at Baldwinsville, New York, June 20.

All members expecting to attend should make reservations for rooms with Dr. Beal.

READ THIS!

American Iris Society Test Gardens

Who and Where They Are—What They Need

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Dr. Geo. M. Reed in charge. Test Garden for Beardless Irises making a special study of Japanese varieties. Pests and diseases, Beardless Irises studied here. New Japanese, New Siberian, Beardless species, Oncocyclus and Regelia varieties required. Communication in regard to Beardless varieties invited.

California Botanic Garden, Sawtelle, Calif. Prof. Frederic W. Taylor in charge. Dr. S. S. Berry, 1145 W. Highland Ave., Redlands, Calif., supervising Iris collection, will be glad of lists of available varieties are submitted to him, also to reply to questions as to what is needed. Many varieties, covering all sections desired as this is the opportunity to test unusual sorts that cannot be tried in Eastern Test Gardens.

Cornell University, Dept. of Floriculture, Ithaca, N. Y. Mr. Alfred M. S. Pridham in charge. General Test Garden. Large collection standard varieties needing all newer varieties including bulbous. Dwarf Bearded test being made by Dr. Albert H. Wright. Two plants of each of these should be sent to him that they can be studied in the two plots.

Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Ames, Iowa. Prof. E. C. Volz in charge. General Test Garden having standard varieties. Needs Beardless, Japanese and Dwarf Bearded, also all new varieties.

Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo. Mr. P. A. Kron in charge. General Test Garden desiring all new varieties, Bearded or Beardless and species to complete collection and provide material for various tests.

Minnesota, University of. Mr. F. X. Schreiner, Route 1, Riverview Sta., St. Paul, Minn., in charge. Varieties of Bearded, Beardless, species and bulbous. All needed for study.

Morton Arboretum, Lisle, DuPage Co., Ill. Mr. Godshalk in charge. General Test Garden for all kinds of Bearded, Beardless, species. Many duplicates needed as several gardens are being laid out for display and study. All standard and new sorts welcome.

New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York, N. Y. Mr. Kenneth M. Boynton in charge. **Test Garden for Bearded varieties.** Trial Garden for seedlings. Breeding Garden for species under direction of Dr. A. B. Stout. Dr. J. K. Small is testing and describing new species collected by him. New varieties of Bearded needed. Seedlings sent in should be marked "Seedlings for Trial."

Saskatchewan, University of, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Prof. C. F. Patterson in charge. Glad to receive any newer varieties to test hardiness in that climate. Particularly desirous of American seedlings to test value in Canada. Senders should write first to Prof. Patterson who will get permit for specified number of plants.

NOTICE—REGISTRATIONS

It has been the custom of the American Iris Society to register Iris names until October 31st of any given year, after which the list has been printed in the BULLETIN of the January following. The publication in the January BULLETIN of a list totalling the Registration for the year preceding will continue, but Registrations will be published in the horticultural press as quickly after they have been approved as is possible and the month and year in which they were registered will be given. This method should bring the new names before breeders and growers much more quickly and keep them conversant with this side of Iris affairs. It should help them, too, in that they will not submit so many names that are already in use. Because of an arrangement with the Iris Society (England) names will be passed on by both Societies before finally registered. To allow time for this, the **date for closing** the American registrations each year must be advanced to August 31st. So, notice is hereby given to American breeders and growers to send in their names before that date.

In submitting names it is advisable to send several choices marked as first and second, etc. As there are over eight thousand names in the new Check List it can readily be seen that it is easy to pick a name that cannot be approved!

One rule for Registration is that no name which has been used before will be approved and only one name will be allowed including all the sections so that there will not be a Bulbous sort with the same name as a Tall Bearded unless, of course, it is a synonym.

Another rule is that names *must* be submitted to the Registrar and not just handed in to some other Officer of the Society with the expectation that he will see they reach the right place. The Secretary will try to forward communications to the person best able to answer queries, but anything so important as registration must be bound by set rules of procedure.

A third rule is that a full description which includes parentage (if possible), color, type, section, etc., etc., must accompany the application. The applicant should say also if the seedling has already been introduced and when and by whom (giving full address) and he or she should, if registering for the first time, also give some

slight biographical details about themselves, such as whether an amateur, nurseryman, etc., that the files of the Society may be kept up to date and that when a supplement to the Check List is about to be published, muh research will not have to be resorted to.

No person other than the originator may register a seedling unless permission to make such registration has been granted by the originator and notice of such permission must be sent to the chairman of the registration committee at the time such registration is made.

IRIS EXHIBITIONS 1929

Athens, Georgia. The Georgia Iris Society. Mrs. Lamar Rucker, 126 Dearing St., Secretary-Treasurer.

Boston, Mass. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society, June 15th and 16th, E. I. Farrington, Secretary.

Dallas, Texas. The Garden Club of Dallas. Mrs. Gross R. Scruggs, 3715 Turtle Creek Blvd.

Delphi, Indiana. The Woman's Club of Delphi. Rev. William Grant Smith, 128 West Snmmit St.

Des Moines, The Garden Club of Des Moines.

Goldsboro, N. C. The Garden Club of Goldsboro. Mrs. A. Oettinger, 619 Park Ave.

Lexington, Ky. Garden Club of Lexington Spring Flower Show. Miss Daisy Hume, Secretary.

Lynchburg, Va. The Garden Club of Lynchburg. Miss Josephine P. Kinnier, 518 Washington St.

Omaha, Neb. The Garden Club of Omaha. G. Seaberg, Secretary.

Providence, R. I. The Providence County Garden Club, June 12th. Prof. John E. Hill, 86 Taber Ave.

Sioux City, Iowa. The Garden Club of Sioux City. W. S. Snyder, 520 Davidson Bldg., President.

Towson, Maryland. The Towson Garden Club. Mrs. John T. Love, Sundorne, Maryland.

Washington, D. C. National Capital Dahlia and Iris Society. Mrs. W. E. Clever, Arlington, Va., Secretary-Treasurer.

Come out and See the Iris in Bloom

My exhibit this year will be finer than ever. I hope to have blooming such varieties as Wm. R. Dykes, the famous new yellow; San Francisco and Los Angeles, the Giant flowered Plicatas; Grace Sturtevant, Wm. Mohr and others of the aristocrats; the new Sass varieties, including some as yet not introduced. In fact, I have the most noted European and American 1926, 1927 and 1928 introductions. There is also a fine collection of Siberian and Japanese Iris, Iris species and types, Evansias, Regelias, Oncocyclus, Regeliocyclus, Bulbous Iris, etc.

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* From Bulletin 15, page 40.

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The collection of Irises at Orpington is one of the finest in Europe, and the world's best varieties may be seen flowering together for comparison.

Those who cannot pay a visit will probably appreciate a copy of our book of the Orpington Irises, and this will gladly be sent post free on request to any address. Mr. P. Murrell, the well known Iris Expert, who is one of our Directors, is always glad to advise and assist in every possible manner growers who write to him.

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The new Peony Manual of the American Peony Society is bringing most favorable comments from every section of the country where it has been distributed. It is, doubtless, the most complete and authoritative work on the Peony ever attempted.

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